17

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1	1.	A method of verifying the authenticity of a signature on a collectible								
2		object comprising the following steps:								
3		a.	connecting an originating computer via an online							
4			communication system to a central computer,							
5		b.	providing information from the originating computer to the							
6			central computer about the user and the signer and selecting							
7	•		the type of collectible surface on which the suspected							
8			signature is inscribed,							
9		C.	scanning the suspected signature at the originating							
10			computer and transmitting the scanned image to the central							
11:			computer,							
12		d.	comparing the scanned image of the suspected signature							
13			with a selected set of stored signatures at the central							
14			computer to determine whether the suspected signature is							
15			authentic or not authentic, and							
16		e.	communicating to the originating computer whether the							

signature is authentic or not authentic.

1	2.	A method of verifying the authenticity of a signature on a collectible							
2		object according to Claim 1 further comprising the following steps							
3		for those signatures that are determined to be authentic:							
4		f. printing a certificate of authenticity bearing a serialized							
5		hologram and printing a second identical hologram for those							
6		signatures that are authentic, and							
7		g. attaching the second hologram to the collectible.							
1	3.	A method of verifying the authenticity of a signature on a collectible							
2		object comprising the following steps:							
3		a. scanning a suspected signature that is inscribed on a							
4		collectible with a scanner and transferring the scanned							
5		image into an originating computer,							
6		b. connecting the originating computer via an online							
7		communication system to a central computer,							
8		c. providing information from the originating computer to the							
9		central computer about the user and the signer and selecting							
10		the type of collectible surface on which the suspected							
11		signature is inscribed,							

12		d.	transmittir	ng the	scanne	d image	from	the	origina	iting
13			computer	to the	central co	mputer,				
14		e.	comparing	g the s	canned i	mage of t	he sus	pecte	d signa	ture
15			with a se	lected	set of st	tored refe	ence s	signati	ures at	the
16			central c	ompute	er to de	termine v	vhether	the	suspe	cted
17			signature	is auth	entic or no	ot authenti	c, and			
18		f.	communic	ating	to the o	riginating	compu	ter w	hether	the
19			suspected	l signat	ure is aut	hentic or n	ot auth	entic.		
1	4.	A met	hod of veri	fying th	e authent	cicity of a s	uspecte	ed sig	nature o	on a
2		collec	tible objec	t acco	rding to	Claim 3	further	com	prising	the
3		follow	ing steps f	or thos	e suspect	ed signatu	ires tha	t are	determi	ined
4		to be	authentic:							
5		g.	printing a	certif	icate of	authenticit	y bear	ing a	seriali	ized
6			hologram	and pr	inting a se	econd ider	ntical ho	ologra	m for th	ose
7			suspected	l signat	ures that	are auther	ntic, and	t		
8		h.	attaching	the	second	hologram	n to	the	collecti	ible.